

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Withdrawn): A method for the production of a multimatrix (32) of rubber which can be used for the simultaneous manufacture of a plurality of identical decorative elements of resin, in particular ornaments (10), comprising the stages of:

- preparing a metal matrix (12) which reproduces in positive form the shape of at least one ornament (10),
- providing the metal matrix (12) with lateral walls (14) in such a manner as to form a first hollow vessel, the bottom of which is constituted by the metal matrix (12),
- pouring into the first vessel a rubber (16) in the fluid state and leaving it to harden to give a hardened rubber matrix (18) which reproduces in negative form the shape of the at least one ornament (10), this operation being repeated until a plurality of matrices (18) of hardened rubber is obtained,
- putting together the matrices (18) of hardened rubber in a side-by-side arrangement to give a composite rubber structure (20) having several identical figures,
- providing the composite structure (20) with lateral walls (22) in such a manner as to form a second hollow vessel, the bottom of which is constituted by the composite structure (20),

- pouring a resin (24) into the second vessel and leaving it to harden to give an intermediate multimatrix (26) which reproduces in positive form the shape of a plurality of ornaments (10),
- providing the intermediate multimatrix (26) with lateral walls (28) in such a manner as to form a third hollow vessel, the bottom of which is constituted by the intermediate multimatrix (26), and
- pouring into the third vessel a rubber (30) in the fluid state and leaving it to harden to give a rubber multimatrix (32) having several identical figures (34), each of which reproduces in negative form the shape of a single ornament (10).

2. (Withdrawn): A method according to claim 1, wherein the metal matrix (12) reproduces in positive form the shape of a single ornament (10).

3. (Withdrawn): A method according to claim 1, wherein said intermediate multimatrix (26) is hardened at a temperature of from 45 to 50°C for a period of time of from 10 to 12 hours.

4. (Withdrawn): A method according to claim 1, wherein said rubber (16, 30) has anti-adhesive properties and is free from additives, such as oils or plasticisers, capable of migrating.

5. (Currently Amended): A method for the simultaneous manufacture of a plurality of identical decorative articles of resin, in particular ornaments [(10)], comprising the stages of:

- preparing a multimatrix [(32)] of hardened rubber having several identical figures [(34)], each of which reproduces in negative form the shape of a single ornament [(10)],
- pouring a resin [(36)] into each figure [(34)] and leaving it to harden;
- demoulding the hardened resin [(36)] from each figure to give a plurality of identical ornaments [(10)]; and

applying a bi-adhesive sheet to the back of the ornaments wherein the bi-adhesive sheet is applied prior to the removal thereof from the mould [(10)] and after the resin has hardened.

6. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 5, which provides for covering the surface of the figures [(34)], before pouring the resin [(36)], with a coating capable of adhering to the decorative resin [(36)], in order to obtain a covering of the outer surface of the ornaments [(10)].

7. (Canceled).